

CROP-WEATHER REPORT

Issue: 03-32 (ISSN 0896-4734)
Released: 2:00 p.m., MST, October 20, 2003
For Week Ending: October 19, 2003

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

 MONTANA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
10 W 15th St Suite 3100
Helena, MT 59626-0033
(406) 441-1240 or 1-800-835-2612
www.nass.usda.gov/mt/
nass-mt@nass.usda.gov

Agricultural Summary

There were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending October 19. The majority of the state received some precipitation over the past week but for the most part it was too little to make a difference in either the topsoil or subsoil moisture levels.

West Glacier received the greatest amount of precipitation for the week at 0.74 inches. The state high was 88 in Bozeman and the state low was 14 in Wisdom. The weather outlook for the week of Oct 27-Nov 2 is for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation east and west of the divide. Normal temperatures for this period are lows in the upper teens to the lower 30s and highs in the lower 40s to lower 50s.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-yr. Avg. |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Topsoil Moisture | | | | |
| Very Short | 49 | 49 | 24 | 24 |
| Short | 42 | 40 | 38 | 40 |
| Adequate | 9 | 11 | 38 | 36 |
| Surplus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subsoil Moisture | | | | |
| Very Short | 71 | 64 | 39 | 36 |
| Short | 25 | 29 | 39 | 41 |
| Adequate | 4 | 7 | 22 | 23 |
| Surplus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Field Crops Report

The winter wheat crop continues to struggle due to the lack of moisture. Even though the majority of the crop is planted, some areas of emerged wheat are starting to show signs of drought. Abnormally, high temperatures over the past week have aided in speeding up the emergence process but the extremely low topsoil moisture levels will prevent development.

Both sugar beets and potatoes are nearing the end of harvest as both are ahead of their respective 5-year averages. The warm fall weather has played a significant role in harvesting these crops.

Crop Progress Table

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-yr. Avg. |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Potatoes | | | | |
| Harvested | 90 | 84 | 92 | 85 |
| Sugar Beets | | | | |
| Harvested | 88 | 51 | 82 | 78 |
| Winter Wheat | | | | |
| Seeded | 98 | 92 | 96 | 91 |
| Emergent | 64 | 32 | 78 | 62 |

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and pasture conditions continue to decline over the past week. The limited precipitation was too late for this year. Supplemental feeding is under way and will continue throughout the fall and winter months. Movement of livestock from summer ranges is significantly ahead of last year's ratings.

Range & Pasture Feed Condition Table

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-yr. Avg. |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Very Poor | 42 | 40 | 27 | 21 |
| Poor | 34 | 33 | 26 | 29 |
| Fair | 19 | 21 | 30 | 31 |
| Good | 5 | 6 | 16 | 17 |
| Excellent | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

Livestock Table

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-yr. Avg. |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|

Movement from Summer Ranges

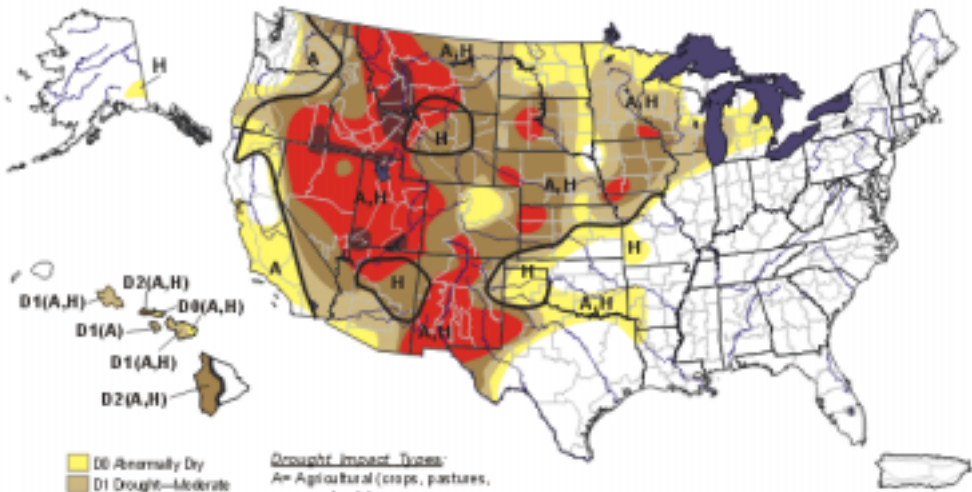
| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|
| Cattle | 74 | 65 | 66 | 70 |
| Sheep and Lambs | 77 | 65 | 63 | 73 |

Receiving Supplemental Feed

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|-----|-----|
| Cattle | 27 | 24 | 16 | N/A |
| Sheep and Lambs | 21 | 17 | N/A | N/A |

U.S. Drought Monitor

October 14, 2003
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Drought—Moderate
D2 Drought—Severe
D3 Drought—Extreme
D4 Drought—Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:
A= Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
H= Hydrological (water)
No type = both impacts
Delineates dominant impacts

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, October 16, 2003
Author: Rich Tinker, NOAA/NWS/CPC

THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:
MSU Extension Agents

USDA County Service Centers
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Week Ending 6:00 p.m. MDT, October 18, 2003 1/

| STATION | TEMPERATURE PAST WEEK | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-----|------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----|-------------------------|-----------|-----|
| | | | | Past Week | April 1, 2003 to Date | | | October 1, 2002 to Date | | |
| | High | Low | Avg. | | Total 2/ | Normal 3/ | % | Total 2/ | Normal 3/ | % |
| | Degrees | | | | In. | Inches | | Normal | Inches | |
| NORTHWEST | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drummond | 80 | 23 | 46 | 0.06 | 6.86 | 8.55 | 80 | 12.27 | 12.74 | 96 |
| Hamilton | 78 | 32 | 49 | 0.15 | 4.70 | 8.08 | 58 | 11.99 | 13.66 | 88 |
| Kalispell | 70 | 25 | 45 | 0.48 | 6.93 | 9.98 | 69 | 11.60 | 17.37 | 67 |
| Libby | M | M | M | M | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Missoula | 75 | 30 | 47 | 0.22 | 7.95 | 8.57 | 93 | 13.26 | 13.95 | 95 |
| Polson | 72 | 30 | 47 | 0.48 | 8.22 | 10.34 | 79 | 16.34 | 16.32 | 100 |
| Superior | 75 | 32 | 48 | 0.30 | 4.79 | 8.93 | 54 | 13.29 | 16.76 | 79 |
| Thompson Falls | M | M | M | M | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| West Glacier | 51 | 31 | 43 | 0.74 | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| NORTHCENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chester | 75 | 21 | 46 | 0.70 | 6.32 | 8.48 | 75 | 7.78 | 10.66 | 73 |
| Choteau | 80 | 24 | 48 | 0.15 | 7.91 | 8.85 | 89 | 10.14 | 10.40 | 98 |
| Conrad | 56 | 25 | 42 | 0.00 | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Cut Bank | 77 | 20 | 46 | 0.10 | 4.33 | 10.34 | 42 | 5.03 | 12.58 | 40 |
| Ft. Benton | 84 | 29 | 55 | 0.22 | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Gold Butte | 80 | 20 | 47 | 0.24 | 9.26 | 11.00 | 84 | 11.75 | 13.81 | 85 |
| Harlem | 82 | 22 | 48 | 0.28 | 7.97 | 9.39 | 85 | 10.42 | 11.62 | 90 |
| Havre | 84 | 22 | 51 | 0.00 | 8.55 | 8.71 | 98 | 9.88 | 11.56 | 85 |
| Shelby | 82 | 22 | 48 | 0.00 | 7.17 | 9.31 | 77 | 8.92 | 11.64 | 77 |
| Turner | 78 | 23 | 48 | 0.15 | 7.18 | 9.26 | 78 | 8.86 | 11.33 | 78 |
| Valier | 76 | 26 | 47 | 0.38 | 8.40 | 10.26 | 82 | 9.38 | 12.32 | 76 |
| NORTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | |
| Culbertson | 83 | 24 | 48 | 0.05 | 11.90 | 11.38 | 105 | 16.05 | 13.72 | 117 |
| Glasgow | 84 | 27 | 49 | 0.22 | 7.62 | 9.09 | 84 | 8.91 | 11.34 | 79 |
| Glendive | 85 | 34 | 53 | 0.04 | 7.34 | 11.00 | 67 | 11.34 | 13.78 | 82 |
| Jordan | 84 | 21 | 49 | 0.11 | 9.96 | 10.10 | 99 | 11.08 | 13.04 | 85 |
| Plentywood | M | M | M | M | 8.05 | 10.81 | 74 | 10.95 | 13.27 | 83 |
| Scobey | 82 | 18 | 44 | 0.28 | 7.97 | 10.60 | 75 | 9.85 | 12.59 | 78 |
| Sidney | 83 | 28 | 51 | 0.23 | 8.99 | 11.43 | 79 | 13.20 | 14.47 | 91 |
| Wolf Point | 84 | 26 | 48 | 0.18 | 7.95 | 9.75 | 82 | 9.92 | 12.10 | 82 |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cascade | 78 | 19 | 46 | 0.20 | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Flatwillow | 84 | 32 | 53 | 0.28 | 7.48 | 10.36 | 72 | 11.86 | 13.45 | 88 |
| Great Falls | 81 | 26 | 50 | 0.17 | 8.39 | 11.04 | 76 | 10.64 | 15.04 | 71 |
| Harlowton | 79 | 25 | 48 | 0.48 | 6.62 | 11.18 | 59 | 8.57 | 14.21 | 60 |
| Helena | 82 | 32 | 52 | 0.07 | 7.00 | 8.57 | 82 | 9.15 | 11.42 | 80 |
| Lewistown | 80 | 27 | 49 | 0.24 | 9.64 | 13.22 | 73 | 13.66 | 18.03 | 76 |
| Melstone | 84 | 29 | 53 | 0.37 | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Roundup | 84 | 30 | 52 | 0.17 | 7.03 | 10.59 | 66 | 10.25 | 13.42 | 76 |
| Stanford | 81 | 29 | 50 | 0.11 | 10.16 | 13.26 | 77 | 14.20 | 17.29 | 82 |
| White Sulphur Spr | 75 | 23 | 46 | 0.10 | 7.58 | 10.20 | 74 | 10.09 | 13.37 | 75 |
| SOUTHWEST | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anaconda | 77 | 24 | 45 | 0.21 | 9.07 | 9.48 | 96 | 15.40 | 13.52 | 114 |
| Belgrade | 82 | 23 | 49 | 0.07 | 8.43 | 10.70 | 79 | 12.25 | 14.88 | 82 |
| Bozeman MSU | 88 | 15 | 49 | 0.10 | 10.00 | 13.78 | 73 | 16.18 | 19.54 | 83 |
| Butte | 76 | 21 | 44 | 0.04 | 7.16 | 9.49 | 75 | 9.56 | 12.91 | 74 |
| Dillon | 79 | 23 | 47 | 0.03 | 5.90 | 9.27 | 64 | 8.39 | 11.78 | 71 |
| Ennis | 78 | 27 | 50 | 0.06 | 8.44 | 10.28 | 82 | 11.49 | 13.74 | 84 |
| Wisdom | 74 | 14 | 38 | 0.10 | 6.16 | 8.28 | 74 | 11.74 | 12.02 | 98 |
| SOUTHCENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| Billings | 79 | 34 | 54 | 0.04 | 6.02 | 10.31 | 58 | 9.47 | 14.97 | 63 |
| Gardiner | 78 | 31 | 48 | 0.00 | 5.37 | 7.10 | 76 | 7.43 | 9.97 | 75 |
| Hardin | 87 | 32 | 55 | 0.02 | 7.02 | 8.83 | 80 | 10.66 | 12.28 | 87 |
| Livingston | 81 | 23 | 52 | 0.14 | 8.77 | 11.96 | 73 | 13.58 | 15.93 | 85 |
| Rapelje | 82 | 25 | 51 | 0.03 | 7.14 | 11.36 | 63 | 11.21 | 15.52 | 72 |
| Red Lodge | 76 | 27 | 48 | 0.17 | 6.65 | 15.76 | 42 | 11.97 | 24.09 | 50 |
| SOUTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baker | 80 | 28 | 48 | 0.07 | 10.33 | 11.39 | 91 | 14.08 | 14.59 | 97 |
| Broadus | 84 | 31 | 52 | 0.00 | 8.15 | 10.21 | 80 | 12.37 | 13.79 | 90 |
| Ekalaka | 78 | 29 | 47 | 0.34 | 11.88 | 13.31 | 89 | 16.74 | 17.50 | 96 |
| Miles City | 84 | 32 | 52 | 0.26 | 7.40 | 10.63 | 70 | 9.80 | 13.68 | 72 |

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.

Peggy Stringer,
State Statistician

Stephen Brueske, Meteorologist-in-Charge
National Weather Service - (406) 453-2081

Dr. LeRoy Luft, Director of Extension
Montana State University